Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Louisiana Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP)

Kick off Meeting

April 13, 2005

Project Manager

Mireya Laigast, Civil Engineer, E.I.

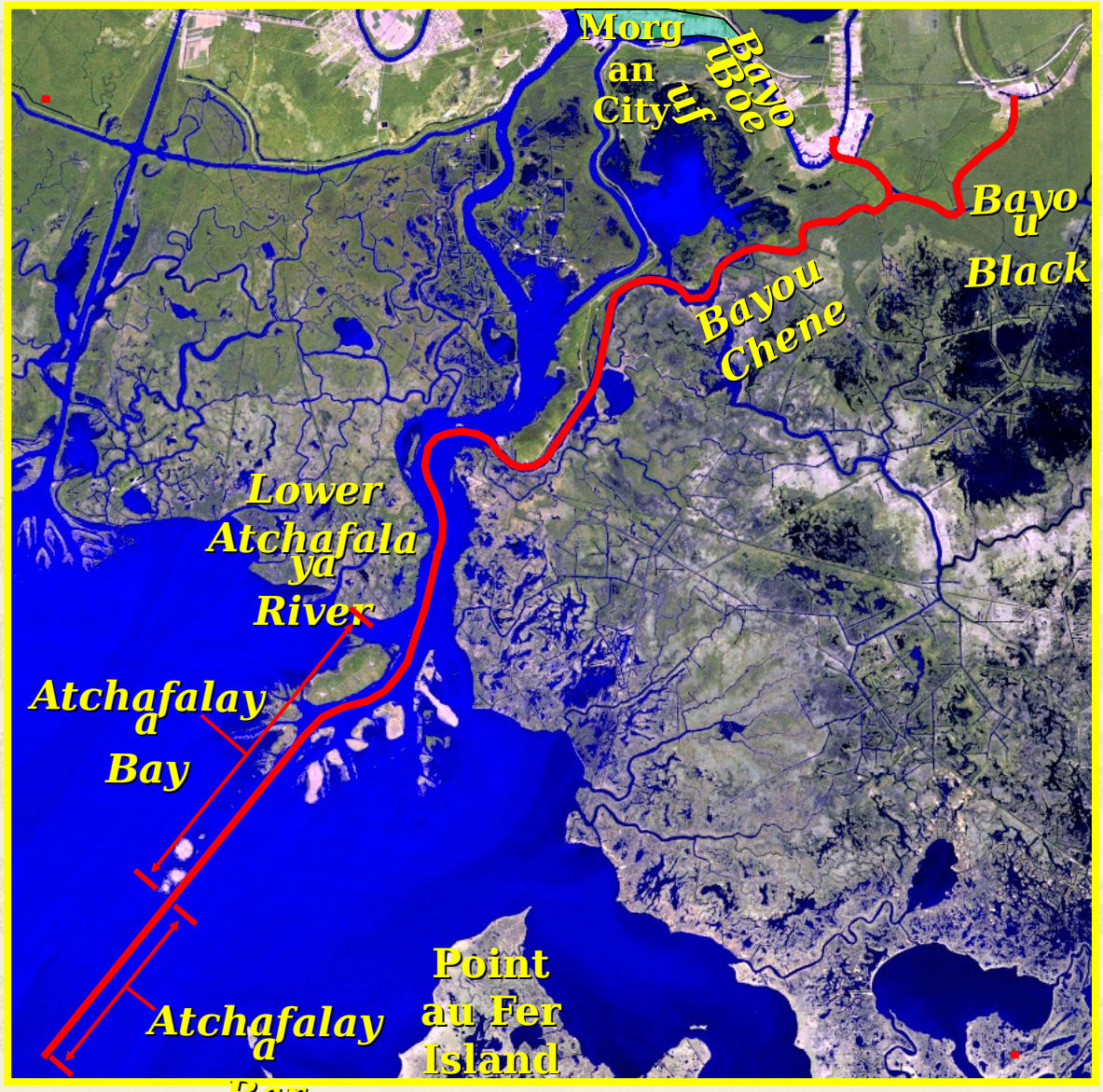
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN)

Phone: 504-862-2447

e-mail: mireya.l.laigast@mvn02.usace.army.mil

Topics of Discussion

- *Purpose*
- *Plan Formulation*
- *Development Process*
- *Requirements*
- *Process*
- *Schedule*
- *Where to next*



Atchafalaya River Bayous Chene, Boeuf, & Black

Project Location

Background of Project

- *The area of the project is the Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf , and Black, Louisiana.*

- *Dredging Cycle:*

Reach	Frequency (years)
Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black	5-10
Lower Atchafalaya River Horseshoe	1
Lower Atchafalaya River Bay Channel	1
Lower Atchafakaya River Bar Channel	1/2 - 1

Sediment is dredged annually from sub-reaches of the area. The dredged material is placed in a series of Confined Disposal Facilities (CDFs) adjacent to the river, unconfined, unconfined for wetlands development, and occasionally used for creation of wetlands when paired with CWPPRA or CAP Section 204

CWPPRA = Water Resources Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection Restoration Act (1990 Breaux Act).
CAP = Continuing Authority Program. Section 204 of the 1992 Water Resources Development Act, beneficial uses of dredged material to protect, restore, or create aquatic and ecologically related habitats,including wetlands.

Purpose of DMMP

- ***The goal is to accomplish the disposal of dredged material from navigation projects in the least costly manner and meet all Federal environmental standards.***

- ***U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) policy (Engineering Regulation 1105-2-100, Appendix E, E-15) requires each of its districts to prepare a DMMP to maintain federal navigation channels for at least 20 years.***

DMMP Plan Formulation

It will identify:

the amount of material that needs to be dredged to maintain the federal channel

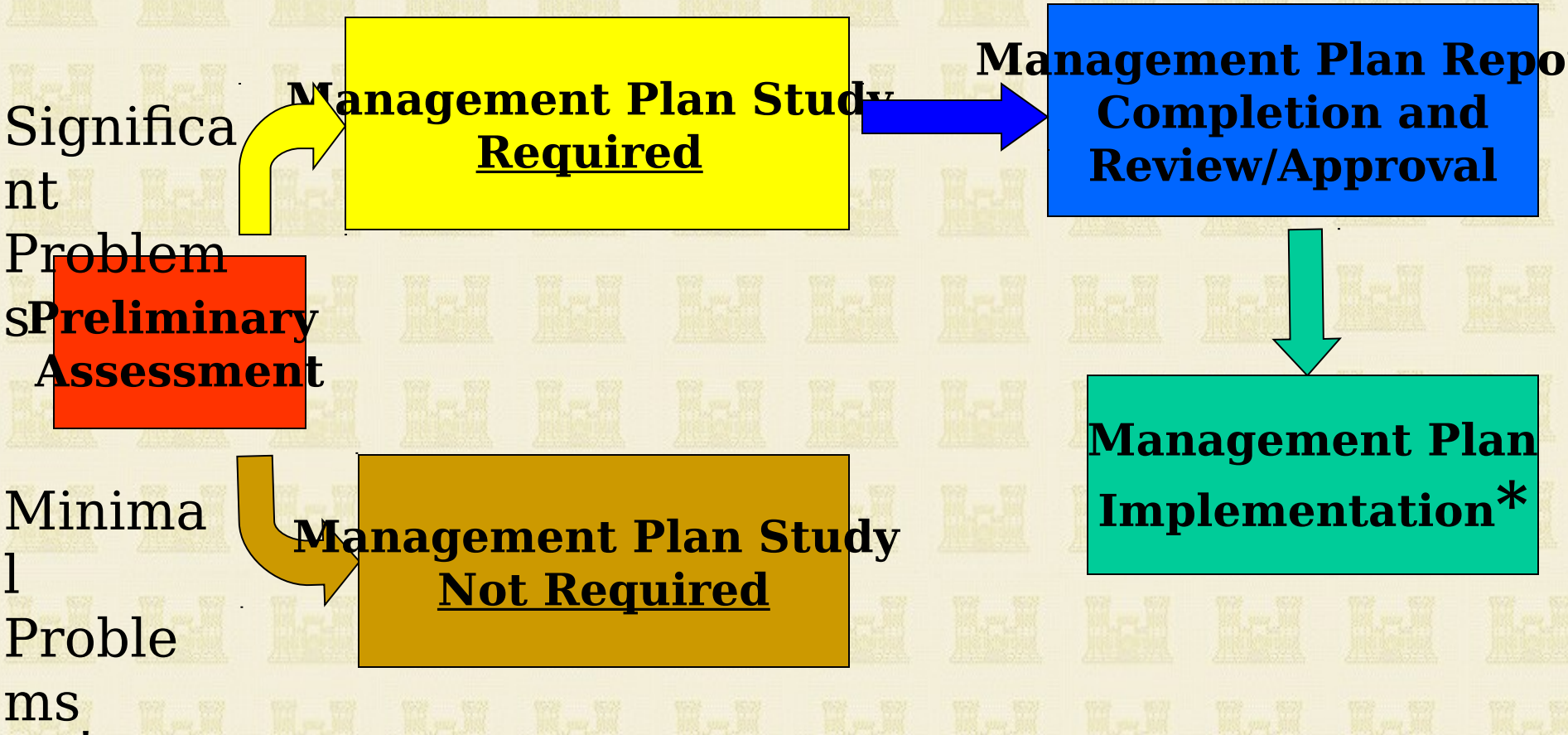
the manner in which the dredged material will be managed/disposed using cost effective and environmentally accepted methods

specific measures necessary to manage the volume of material likely to be dredged over a 20-year period for maintenance dredging

Plan Formulation
cont.

- ***It will consider the Non-Federal permitted dredging within the related (geographical) area to the extent that disposal of material from these sources affects the size and capacity of federal disposal areas***

DMMP Development Process



***Requires the execution of a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with the local sponsor and contingent upon Federal and Non-Federal funds**

Development Process cont.

- *A Preliminary Assessment report entitled "Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, LA Dredged Material Management Plan" was completed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, New Orleans District in September 1996.*

- *The report concluded that the storage capacity of the existing disposal facilities is not sufficient to accommodate all the dredged material that would be removed during the next 20 years maintenance .*

- *Therefore, a dredged material management plan needs to be prepared for the placement of material over the next 20-years.*

DMMP Requirements

1) Alternatives

(No-Action Plan, Environmentally Preferred Plan, and Base Plan)

- extend life of existing disposal sites

- new disposal sites involving different disposal methods

- reduce dredging cycles

2) Beneficial Uses

Include an assessment of potential uses of dredged material for environmental purposes including fish and wildlife habitat creation, ecosystem restoration and enhancement

Requirements cont.

3) Involvement and Coordination

Interdisciplinary Team – relevant professional disciplines needed to ensure sound professional decisions

Partnership - project sponsors, port authorities, local governments, and other project users and beneficiaries are partners ,

and have a key role as the project proponents in building local consensus

Review and Consultation – Federal, State, and other public agencies with legal review, consultation, or other regulatory responsibility

Public Involvement – members of the public who are interested, likely to be affected, or otherwise have a stake in the outcomes

Requirements cont.

4) Environmental Consistency

DMMP shall address the requirements of all applicable environmental statues, executive orders, and other federal requirements for all disposal alternatives considered.

DMMP Process

1. Prepare a feasibility level decision document (DMMP) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), submit to Division for review and approval. Cost of DMMP study is 100% federal.
2. When DMMP report and EIS are approved - initiate preconstruction planning and design studies. (Those costs will be subject to cost sharing).
3. Prepare and submit a PCA to Headquarters for review and approval.

DMMP Schedule

- ***DMMP report – 12 to 36 months***
- ***Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – 18 to 36 months***
- ***Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) – 12 to 24 months (Fed/Non-Fed cost-sharing responsibilities)***

Schedule cont.

- ***DMMP approval at Division level – 1 to 2 months. If significant problems arise, needs approval at Headquarters level***
- ***PCA approval at Headquarters 3 months (2 months for processing and 1 month for execution)***
- ***Implementation of the DMMP upon execution of PCA and contingent upon Federal and Non-Federal funds***

Where to next

- ***Tentative Brainstorm Session scheduled for the second week of May. May 9-13***

Web Site for DMMP project:

http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/projectsList/